

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

S E C R E T USNATO 4082

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/81

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: DRAFT WORKING GROUP REPORT ON SHAPE'S ASSESSMENT OF
US APRIL 30 PAPER

REF: USNATO 4044

FOLLOWING IS REVISED TEXT OF DRAFT WORKING GROUP REPORT ON
SHAPE'S ASSESSMENT OF US APRIL 30 PAPER REFERRED TO IN
PARAGRAPHS 10 AND 11 OF REFTEL. REPORT WILL BE CONSIDERED
BY MBFR WG SEPTEMBER 4.

QUOTE

REVISED DRAFT REPORT BY THE WORKING GROUP

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THE WORKING GROUP HAVE EXAMINED THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT
OF THE US PAPER OF 30TH APRIL, 1973 "US APPROACH TO MBFR",
AND REGARD IT AS A VALUABLE AND LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO
ALLIANCE EFFORTS ON MBFR. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT HIS

EXAMINATION IS AS YET INCOMPLETE, SINCE THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF OPTION 3 IS STILL FORTHCOMING. IN THE COURSE OF THEIR EXAMINATION THE MEMBERS CONCENTRATED ATTENTION ON THE MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND THE COMMENTS MADE BELOW SHOULD BE REGARDED IN THAT LIGHT.

2. IT IS NOTED THAT, ALTHOUGH THE US HAS MADE A MORE RECENT CONTRIBUTION TO NATO, THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF THIS 30TH APRIL US PAPER REMAINS A CURRENT AND IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF INTEREST TO BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL AUTHORITIES AT NATO AND IN CAPITALS. MUCH OF THE SHAPE COMMENTARY TRANSCENDS STRICT APPLICABILITY TO THE PARTICULAR REDUCTION OPTIONS INVOLVED AND APPROPRIATELY ADDRESSES THE FUNDAMENTAL MILITARY SECURITY ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE GENERAL PROCESS OF MBFR. WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ITEMS:

3. SHAPE STATES IN PARAGRAPH 1 THAT COMPENSATION FOR THE ASYMMETRY OF REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITY APPEARS POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH EFFECTIVE COLLATERAL MEASURES AND, MORE RELIABLY, THROUGH NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT THE COMPENSATION WHICH COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH APPLICATION OF COLLATERAL MEASURES CAN ONLY BE PARTIAL. WE AGREE THE EMPHASIS ON NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENTS: WE FACE, HOWEVER A DIFFICULT PROBLEM HERE IN ENSURING PERMANENT REDUCTIONS IN WP COMBAT CAPABILITY THROUGH A POST-MBFR FORCE LIMITATION AGREEMENT WITHOUT PUTTING FUTURE NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENTS AT RISK.

4. THE WORKING GROUP SUPPORT THE SHAPE CONCEPT (PARAGRAPH 7) OF USING TWO PILLARS (MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT) FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS: IT IS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION NEEDS TO BE GIVEN TO THIS CONCEPT, WHICH THE WORKING GROUP ARE DOING.

5. WE AGREE THAT THE IMPLICATIONS OF REDUCTION CONCEPTS FOR NATO'S AGREED STRATEGY SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO ANALYSIS OF THE SCENARIO INVOLVING MASSIVE WP CONVENTIONAL ATTACK (PARAGRAPH 12), BUT SHOULD ALSO BE EXAMINED FROM THE PERSPECTIVE
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OF LIMITED WP AGGRESSION.

6. THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT STATES A REQUIREMENT FOR ESTABLISHING COLLATERAL MEASURES IN THE THREE WMD (PARAGRAPH 17) WITH AGREED OVERT INSPECTION AS AN ESSENTIAL MINIMUM. SOME MEMBERS NOTE THAT THIS IS IN ACCORD WITH PREVIOUSLY HELD VIEWS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS, WHILE SOME OTHER MEMBERS NOTED THEIR GOVERNMENTS DO NOT SHARE THIS SHAPE VIEW. THE NEED FOR COMPLETION OF THE ON-GOING WORK IN THE SUB-GROUP ON MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS WAS EMPHASISED. AMONG THE MANY MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WILL BE THE INTERPRETATION OF "ESSENTIAL" AND RECOGNITION THAT A RECIPROCAL SOVIET DEMAND MIGHT INVOLVE NOT ONLY FRANCE AS SUGGESTED BY SHAPE BUT OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL.

7. THE VIEWS CONCERNING VERIFICATION (PARAGRAPH 25), ESPECIALLY THAT OVERT INSPECTION IS A PREREQUISITE FOR UNDIMINISHED SECURITY, ARE NOTED BUT SOME DELEGATIONS QUESTIONED WHETHER OVERT INSPECTION SHOULD BE SO STRONGLY EMPHASISED.

8. SHAPE'S VIEW THAT RECIPROCAL CONSTRAINTS (PARAGRAPH 26) SHOULD BE AS TIGHT AS POSSIBLE ON MOVEMENTS FROM OUTSIDE INTO THE NGA, AND AS LOOSE AS POSSIBLE ON MOVEMENTS WITHIN THE NGA, IS IN KEEPING WITH OUR OWN WORK ON MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS.

9. IT IS AGREED THAT US ANALYSES OF REDUCTION OPTIONS (PARAGRAPH 31) SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS THE ONLY SOURCE DOCUMENT FOR DETERMINING THE EFFECTS OF REDUCTION OPTIONS: OTHER NATIONAL AND SHAPE ANALYSES, OFTEN USING DIFFERENT ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS, WILL ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE.

10. THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT EXPRESSES THE VIEW (PARAGRAPHS 36, 40C., 43C.) THAT THE CRITERION OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR THE FLANKS IS ONLY PRESERVED IF WITHDRAWN SOVIET TROOPS ARE PUT IN RESERVE STATUS (UNITS DISBANDED). THE WORKING GROUP BELIEVES THAT THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO PREVENT AN INCREASE IN THREAT TO THE FLANKS.

11. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE ALLIANCE HAS AGREED THAT NATO REDUCTIONS SHOULD NOT EXCEED 10 PER CENT OF THE GROUND FORCES IN THE NGA (PARAGRAPH 41), IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN THE VIEW THAT NATO REDUCTIONS MUST BE FULLY COMPENSATED BY WP
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